

DIVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES REGULATION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR OPTICIANRY

3 CAPITOL HILL
CONFERENCE ROOM 104
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

Wednesday, July 15, 2015
8:45 AM

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Kim Chace, Licensed Optician
Charles Hogenmiller, Licensed Optician
John Lynch Jr., Licensed Optician
Matthew Steward, Licensed Optician

BOARD MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

None

STAFF MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Arlene Hartwell, Board Manager

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

James Morris, Executive Director
American Board of Opticianry, National Contact Lens Examiners

1. Establishment of a quorum

A meeting of the Advisory Committee of Opticianry was held on Wednesday, July 15, 2015 at the Rhode Island Department of Health, Conference Room 104, 3 Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908. A quorum was established and the Open Session meeting was called to order at 8:45 AM on a motion by Kim Chace and seconded by Matthew Steward. Motion carried.

2. Presentation of the November 5, 2014 and December 10, 2014 Open Session Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Kim Chace and seconded by Charles Hogenmiller to accept the Open Session minutes of November 5, 2014. The Board voted unanimously to approve the Open Session minutes as presented. Motion carried. Motion was made by Matthew Steward and seconded by Kim Chace to accept the Open Session minutes of December 10, 2014. The Board voted unanimously to approve the Open Session minutes as presented. Motion carried

3. Board Manager Report

- The board manager announced the creation of the 2015 American Board of Opticianry (ABO) and National Contact Lens Examiners (NCLE) practical exams.
- James Morris, ABO-NCLE Executive Director, arrived at 9:00 AM to present information on the new practical exams.
 - i. The board was shown examples of the questions candidates would see on the practical exams.
 - ii. On a motion by Kim Chace and seconded by John Lynch, Jr., the board voted unanimously to recommend to the director, that beginning in November, 2015, this exam be utilized by the department to test the practical skills of candidates applying for licensure as Opticians in Rhode Island rather than the current practical exam. The board finds that:
 - 1. The cost of sitting for the ABO-NCLE practical exam is \$75 while the current practical exam costs \$250.

2. Candidates will have the option of taking the practical exam immediately after passing the ABO written exam, eliminating the need to schedule a separate testing date.
3. The ABO/NCLE exam will be given in Fall River, MA which is closer to RI than sites where the current exam is offered.

4. Old Business

- The Advisory Committee supports the following amendments to the RI General Laws, Title 5, Chapter 5-32,2 and to the *Rules and Regulations Pertaining to Opticians*:
 - i. Omit language stating that the Department conducts examinations {5-35.2-4 and 5-35.2-14 and Rules and Regulations, 5.1.1}
 - ii. Remove verbiage “selling and replacing” from Rhode Island General Laws, Title 5 Chapter 5-32.2-1 and Rules and Regulations Pertaining to Opticians, section 1.6.
 - iii. Relative to earning CEUs, Section 6.1 of Rules and Regulations Pertaining to Opticians and 5-35.2-7, should not refer to calendar years, rather licensing cycle (February 1 every other year).
- The Rhode Island Association of Registered Dispensing Opticians (RIARDO) will send a letter to the Director requesting her support that RIARDO draft legislation accordingly.

5. Motion to adjourn to Closed Session

Motion was made by John Lynch, Jr. and seconded by Kim Chace to adjourn to Closed Session at 10:49 AM. Motion carried. Pursuant to Sections 42-46-4 and 42-46-5(a)(1) of the Rhode Island General Laws, for the purpose of discussing job performance, character, physical or mental health of applicants for licensure. Said individuals have been notified in advance by writing that they may request that the discussion be held at an open meeting.

6. Motion to return to Open Session

Motion was made by John Lynch and seconded by Kim Chace at 10:55 AM to re-open the Open Session and to seal the Minutes of the Closed Session pursuant to Sections 42-46-4, 42-46-5 and 42-46-7 of the Rhode Island General Laws. Motion carried.

7. Final Actions on all votes taken in Closed Session

- The board reviewed and approved 1 application.

8. Adjournment

The next Advisory Committee of Opticianry meeting will be held November 18, 2015 at the Rhode Island Department of Health, Conference Room 104, 3 Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908. Motion was made by Kim Chace and seconded by Matthew Steward to adjourn at 11:03 AM. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Arlene Hartwell
Board Manager
Office of Health Professionals Regulation